

Subpart U—Blasting and Use of Explosives

1. The authority citation for subpart U is revised to read as follows:

Authority: Sec. 107, Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. 333); secs. 4, 6, and 8, Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (29 U.S.C. 653, 655, 657); Secretary of Labor's Order No. 12-71 (36 FR 8754), 8-76 (41 FR 25059), 9-83 (48 FR 35736), or 1-90 (55 FR 9033), as applicable; 29 CFR part 1911.

§ 1926.906 Initiation of explosive charges—electric blasting [Amended]

2. In § 1926.906, revise paragraph (q) to read as follows:

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(q) Blasters, when testing circuits to charged holes, shall use only blasting galvanometers or other instruments that are specifically designed for this purpose.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Minerals Management Service

30 CFR Part 206

RIN 1010-AC02

Amendments to Gas Valuation Regulations for Federal Leases

AGENCY: Minerals Management Service, Interior.

ACTION: Proposed rule; notice of extension of public comment period.

SUMMARY: The Minerals Management Service (MMS) hereby gives notice that it is extending the public comment period on a Notice of reopening of public comment period, which was published in the Federal Register on May 21, 1996 (61 FR 25421). The proposed rule would amend the regulations governing the valuation for royalty purposes of natural gas produced from Federal leases. In response to requests for additional time, MMS will extend the comment period from July 22, 1996, to August 19, 1996.

DATES: Comments must be received by 4 p.m. Mountain daylight time on August 19, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be sent to the Minerals Management Service, P.O. Box 25165, Mail Stop 3101, Denver, Colorado 80225-0165; courier address: Building 85, Denver Federal Center, Denver, Colorado 80225-0165, Attention: David S. Guzy.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: David S. Guzy, Chief, Rules and Procedures Staff, telephone (303) 231-3432 or (FTS) 231-3432.

Dated: July 15, 1996.

James W. Shaw,

Associate Director for Royalty Management.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

32 CFR Part 651

Environmental Analysis of Army Actions

AGENCY: Department of the Army; Defense.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: This proposed rule would revise Army Regulation 200-2, which is the Army's implementing regulation for the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). Major changes are an expanded list of categorical exclusions, clear separation of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) and NEPA, and delegation of authority to approve environmental impact statements (EIS).

DATES: To be given full consideration, comments must be received no later than August 21, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be sent to: Headquarters, Department of the Army, ATTN: DAIM-ED (Mr. Timothy Julius), 600 Army Pentagon, Washington, DC 20310-0600.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Timothy P. Julius, (703) 693-0543.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This proposed regulation establishes policies and responsibilities for assessing the effects of Army actions. It supplements Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA (40 CFR parts 1500-1508). The last major revision to this regulation was in December 1988. Since that time, initiatives such as the National Performance Review have tended to streamline the Federal Government through decentralization, reduction and simplification of regulations, and management of risk. This revision strives to meet the spirit of the National Performance Review, and Executive Order (EO) 12861, Elimination of One-Half of Executive Branch Internal Regulations, dated September 11, 1993. This proposed regulation incorporates

emerging issues such as Environmental Justice (EO 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations, dated February 11, 1994) and Community Right-to-Know (EO 12856, Federal Compliance with Right-to-Know Laws and Pollution Prevention Requirements, dated August 3, 1993). The list of categorical exclusions has been expanded to include a more comprehensive array of actions routinely performed by the Army which have minimal or no individual or cumulative effect on environmental quality. This is intended to better focus on actions that warrant the expenditure of time and resources for analysis and formal documentation. The authority to approve environmental impact statements has been delegated to Commanders of Major Commands (primarily for Installations), and Program Executive Officers and Commanders of Major Subordinate Commands with Milestone Decision Authority (for acquisition and development programs). The purpose of delegation of approval authority for EISs is to empower the officials who are responsible for accomplishing the work. This empowerment will compel the decision makers to take more complete ownership of their actions, and makes the NEPA process an integral, rational part of Army decision making processes. CERCLA and NEPA are clearly separated in recognition of the Department of Justice's opinion with regard to the application of NEPA to CERCLA cleanups, and to eliminate potential duplication of effort. Procedural Requirements: This regulation does not involve the collection of information and is therefore not subject to the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act. This rule contains no policies that have Federalism implications under EO 12612, Federalism, dated October 26, 1987. This proposed rule is not a major rule pursuant to EO 12291, Federal Regulation, dated February 17, 1981, therefore a Regulatory Flexibility Analysis is not required. This is not a significant regulatory action pursuant to EO 12866, Regulatory Planning and Review, dated September 30, 1993. This regulation meets the standards of Sec. 2(b)(2) of EO 12778, Civil Justice Reform, dated October 23, 1991.

List of Subjects in 32 CFR Part 651

Environmental impact statement, Environmental protection, Natural resources.